

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows where a copy of the claims with the amendments delineated are set forth below in accordance with the PTO guidelines. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

- 1 1. (Currently amended) An integrated application environment, comprising:
2 a client computer system adapted to communicate with a mainframe computer
3 system, the mainframe computer system in communication with a
4 database holding data about a plurality of customers, ~~wherein the~~
5 ~~customer data is accessed via a key~~the data indexed by keys, the client
6 computer system comprising:
7 a desktop bus adapted to receive the a key that indexes data about a
8 customer stored in the database, store the received key, and provide
9 the stored key to an application responsive to an occurrence of a
10 pre-specified event;
11 a first application in communication with the desktop bus for receiving as
12 user input data representative of the key, and for providing the key
13 to the desktop bus; and
14 a second application in communication with the desktop bus for receiving
15 the key from the desktop bus responsive to the occurrence of the
16 pre-specified event, and for accessing the data about the customer
17 in the database data at the mainframe computer system with and
18 indexed by the key.

- 1 2. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 1, wherein the
2 desktop bus is adapted to hold a plurality of keys for each of a plurality of sessions, and
3 wherein the key provided by the first application to the desktop bus is associated with a
4 particular one of the plurality of sessions.

1 3. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 2, wherein the
2 client computer system is coupled to a display for displaying graphical information, the
3 client computer system further comprising:

4 a control bar application adapted to graphically indicate on the display which
5 of the plurality of sessions is active and adapted to enable selection of
6 one of the plurality of sessions.

1 4. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 2, wherein the
2 client computer system is coupled to a display for displaying graphical information, the
3 client computer system further comprising:

4 an information bar displayed on the display, the information bar graphically
5 indicating which of the plurality of sessions is active and adapted to
6 display customer data associated with a key for the active session.

1 5. (Cancelled)

1 6. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 1, wherein the
2 second application is designated as “hot.”

1 7. (Previously presented) The integrated application environment of claim 1,
2 wherein a pre-specified event is receipt of the key from the first application.

1 8. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 1, wherein the
2 second application is designated as “cold.”

1 9. (Previously presented) The integrated application environment of claim 1,
2 wherein a pre-specified event is the second application gaining focus.

1 10. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 1, further
2 comprising:

3 a bus interface component associated with the first application for enabling
4 communications between the first application and the desktop bus.

1 11. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 10, wherein the
2 bus interface component is a language-specific proxy between the first application and the
3 desktop bus.

1 12. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 11, wherein
2 there are a plurality of bus interface components for enabling a plurality of applications
3 developed with a plurality of different development languages to communicate with the
4 desktop bus.

1 13. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 10, wherein the
2 bus interface component comprises:

3 a color bar module for graphically indicating whether the first application is
4 displaying customer data associated with the key stored by the desktop
5 bus.

1 14. (Original) The integrated application environment of claim 1, wherein the
2 first and second applications are retrieved from an application server in communication
3 with the client computer system.

1 15. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising[[:] a
2 computer-readable medium having computer-readable code embodied therein for providing
3 an integrated application environment, the computer-readable code comprising:

4 a desktop bus module for receiving a key, ~~the key identifying that indexes data~~
5 ~~about a customer, the data accessible from a remote computer system,~~
6 storing the key, and providing the key to an application program
7 responsive to an occurrence of a pre-specified event; and
8 a bus interface module for enabling communications between the application
9 program and the desktop bus module, the bus interface module adapted
10 to provide the key to the desktop bus module and receive the key from
11 the desktop bus module.

1 16. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the
2 desktop bus module is adapted to hold a plurality of keys for each of a plurality of
3 sessions, and wherein the key provided by the bus interface module to the desktop bus
4 module is associated with a particular one of the plurality of sessions.

1 17. (Original) The computer program product of claim 16, further comprising:
2 a control bar module adapted to graphically indicate which of the plurality of
3 sessions is active and adapted to enable selection of one of the plurality
4 of sessions.

1 18. (Original) The computer program product of claim 16, further comprising:
2 an information bar module adapted to graphically indicate which of the
3 plurality of sessions is active and display customer data associated
4 with a key for the active session.

1 19. (Original) The computer program product of claim 17, wherein, responsive
2 to a selection of one of the plurality of sessions, the desktop bus module is adapted to
3 provide the key associated with the selected session to the bus interface module.

1 20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the
2 desktop bus module and bus interface module exchange the key as an extensible markup
3 language (XML) string.

1 21. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 15,
2 wherein a pre-specified event is receipt of the key from a second application program.

1 22. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 15,
2 wherein a pre-specified event is the application program gaining focus.

1 23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the bus
2 interface module comprises:

3 a color bar module for graphically indicating whether the application program
4 is displaying customer data associated with the key stored by the
5 desktop bus module.

1 24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the bus
2 interface module is a language-specific proxy between the application program and the
3 desktop bus module.

1 25. (Original) The computer program product of claim 24, wherein there are a
2 plurality of bus interface modules for enabling a plurality of application programs
3 developed with a plurality of different development languages to communicate with the
4 desktop bus module.

1 26. (Currently amended) A method of providing an integrated application
2 environment on a computer system, the method comprising the steps of:
3 receiving, by a first application, a key identifying indexing data within a
4 database;
5 providing the key from the first application to a centralized store of
6 information;
7 providing the key from the centralized store of information to a second
8 application responsive to an occurrence of a pre-specified event;
9 retrieving, by the second application, the data identified indexed by the key.

1 27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the step of providing the key
2 from the first application to the centralized store of information comprises the step of:
3 providing an extensible markup language (XML) string containing the key
4 from the first application to the centralized store of information.

1 28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein a pre-specified
2 event is providing the key from the first application to the centralized store of
3 information.

1 29. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising the steps of:
2 notifying the second application that data held by the second application is not
3 current; and
4 responsive to the notification, graphically indicating on a display associated
5 with the computer system that the data held by the second application
6 is not current.

1 30. (Currently amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising the steps
2 of:
3 notifying the second application to take focus; and
4 responsive to receiving the notification to take focus, graphically indicating on
5 the display that the data held by the second application is current;
6 wherein the pre-specified event is the notification to take focus.

1 31. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the centralized
2 store of information is adapted to hold store a plurality of keys for each of a plurality of
3 sessions, and wherein the key provided by the first application to the centralized store of
4 information is associated with a particular one of the plurality of sessions.

1 32. (Original) The method of claim 31, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving, by the centralized store of information, data representative of a
3 change from a first session of the plurality of sessions to a second
4 session of the plurality of sessions;
5 providing, from the centralized store of information to the first application
6 responsive to receipt of the session change, a second key associated
7 with the second session;
8 providing, from the centralized store of information to the second application
9 responsive to receipt of the session change, a notification that data held
10 by the second application is not current.

1 33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32, further comprising the steps
2 of:

3 retrieving, by the first application, data identified indexed by the second key;
4 and
5 graphically indicating on a display associated with the client computer system
6 that the data held by the first application is associated with the second
7 session.